

Serial No. 10/743,528
Attorney Docket No. 2003-0111

REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Final Official Action mailed February 6, 2007, and accompanies a Request for Continued Examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. The Examiner is thereby requested to withdraw the finality of the outstanding office action.

In the present paper, claims 1 and 14 have been amended and claim 19 has been canceled. Claims 4 and 5 were canceled in a previous paper. Claims 1-3 and 6-18 are now presented for the Examiner's consideration in view of the following remarks:

Telephone interview of April 24, 2007

The undersigned wishes to thank the Examiner for his courtesy during the telephone interview conducted on April 24, 2007. During the interview, agreement was reached regarding amendments that would overcome the claim rejections over Mykleby, as discussed below.

The Present Application

In the final Official Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,029,206 to Mykleby et al. ("Mykleby"), has rejected claims 3, 6, 7 and 10-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Mykleby in view of Examiner official notice, has rejected claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Mykleby in view of Examiner official notice and further in view of either U.S. Patent No. 6,935,502 to Stoli et al or U.S. Patent No. 5,165,543 to Heyda, and has rejected claims 9 and 14-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Mykleby in view of Examiner official notice and further in view of "Science Daily."

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Discussion

Applicants have amended the independent claims as agreed during the telephone interview of April 24, 2007. It is submitted that those amendments now more particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention.

Claim 19 has been canceled as superfluous in view of the amendments.

For that reason, Applicants submit that all the claims are now patentable over the cited art.

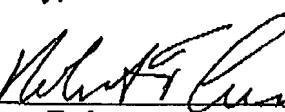
Conclusion

Applicants therefore respectfully assert that claims 1-3 and 5-18 are now in condition for allowance, and earnestly request that the Examiner issue a Notice of Allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present case, the Examiner should not hesitate in contacting the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully,

By


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